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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6976

BILL NUMBER: HB 1407

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 11, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Sex Offenders.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Tyler

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
☒ **FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires the parole board, if a sex offender is on parole, or the court, if a sex offender is on probation, to notify a victim of a sex offense of the sex offender's principal residence address.

It requires that information concerning a sex or violent offender's sentence and residency restrictions be included on the Sex and Violent Offender Registry web site.

It also provides that a plea agreement may include a requirement that a person register as a sex or violent offender.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill will increase costs for the Department of Correction (DOC) to adapt the current victim notification system to provide information on offenders on probation or parole. The total cost for both systems is estimated to be \$42,500 in initial cost and ongoing annual operating costs of \$66,900. [The probation portion of this estimate does not cover all counties of the state. Additional annual operating costs are estimated between \$10,000 and \$20,000 for total state coverage and initial costs between \$2,500 to \$3,000 per county added to the system.] Federal funds have been awarded to provide the parole expansion and grant applications have been made for the probation system. Also, costs for the DOC could minimally increase to provide additional information on the Sex and Violent Offender Registry web site.

Background and Additional Information -

SAVIN: For offenders incarcerated in either a state facility or one of the 91 county jails, a system called the Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) system allows victims to receive notification of the custody status of inmates. The victim registers on the SAVIN system, which is accessed either through the DOC website or by calling a toll-free number. Once offenders are released from custody, SAVIN no longer provides information on residency. A review of SAVIN indicated that Daviess, Jay, and Vermillion Counties are offline.

The DOC received a federal Bureau of Justice Assistance grant to add parolees to the SAVIN system. This grant consists of funds to develop the initial connectivity to Indiana SAVIN of \$20,000 and 1.5 years of operating costs estimated at \$22,000 per year.

The DOC has also applied for a grant to add probation to the SAVIN system, but has not yet received an award. Developing the initial connectivity to Indiana SAVIN for probation is estimated to cost \$22,500, with annual operating expenses of \$44,900.

However, not all counties will be connected to the SAVIN system under this proposal. The number of covered counties is not currently available. Based on the costs to connect county jails to the SAVIN system, it is estimated that connecting each county to the system will cost \$2,500 to \$3,000, and additional annual operating costs will be \$10,000-\$20,000. For the county jail connection, the state paid all costs.

Sex Offender Website: Modification of the website will require modification of the underlying database, the display on the website, and any reports produced from the data.

Notifiers: In a one-day snapshot of the state prison population conducted on October 15, 2008, of the 3,407 offenders convicted of a sex crime (IC 35-42-4), 1,241, or 36%, were identified as having a notifier. (Generally, a notifier notifies a victim of the offender's custody status, but other types of notifications may be included.)

Parole Board and Probation Offices: The Parole Board is budgeted through the DOC. Appropriations for the Board and the Parole Division were \$9.6M in both FY 2008 and 2009. On December 22, 2008, there were eight vacant parole officer positions with a combined salary of \$244,500, and there were no funds reverted to the state General Fund from the Parole Board or Division in FY 2008.

Probation is overseen by the Judicial Conference, which has delegated responsibility to the Indiana Judicial Center. There is no direct appropriation for probation services.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Local expenditures may increase to enter probation data in the SAVIN system. The amount of the increase will depend on the process currently in use in the county.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DOC.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties.

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